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Perhaps Ireland may yet catch a spark of the public spirit, though some of her *once patriotic* members were found in the majority against Wardle's motion.

Men, who belong to parties, cannot be much depended on; they have their private purposes to answer, and may not wish to shut the door against their return to power on some future contingency. But in this instance we have seen the business carried by the voice of the people against *all parties*: for "after all we may see that the people compelled the House of Commons to go so far as they were reluctantly driven, and it was the voice of public censure that prevented them from giving the Duke of York a full acquittal.

My principal design in writing is to communicate through your pages an anecdote of Sir Francis Burdett, when he was in France, during the short peace in 1802. He was asked to what party he belonged? Whether to the party of Fox? "No," says he, "TO THE PARTY OF THE PEOPLE." A noble answer! and yet I have heard him censured, as not being in this answer sufficiently respectful to this famous statesman. But Sir Francis scorned to wear the badge of party.

I shall mention an instance of the servility of party in the Irish House of Commons.

The members dependent on a certain Northern Peer, actually appeared in the house, in a uniform, which was the livery of that nobleman.—This was only a barefaced avowal of what others practice with nearly equal servility. A SIFTER.

*For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.*

#### ON THE AFRICAN INSTITUTION.

**I** FIND it is not inconsistent with the plan of your work to receive contributions from other periodical works, when the obligation is honestly acknowledged. I therefore send you the annexed anecdote of Sir Sidney Smyth, extracted from the Monthly Repository of Theology and General Literature, for the last month.

A READER.

#### AFRICAN INSTITUTION.

THE annual meeting of this laudable Society was holden on Saturday, the

25th instant, at the Freemason's Tavern, his Highness the Duke of Gloucester, Patron and President, in the chair. The report of the proceedings of the Directors was ordered to be published, and will be analyzed in this work, as soon as it appears. The Earl of Moira having informed the meeting in a very impressive speech, of his having recently learnt that Sir Sidney Smyth had been presented by the Prince Regent of Portugal with an estate, and with a number of negro-slaves, to be employed in cultivating it; and that the use Sir Sidney had made of this gift was immediately to liberate the slaves, and to allot to each of them a portion of this estate, to be cultivated by them as free labourers, for their own exclusive benefits. It was resolved unanimously, on the motion of Mr. Wilberforce, That his Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester be requested to communicate to Sir Sidney Smith, the high sense entertained by this meeting, of his admirable judgment and liberality in the above instance, and to return him their warmest thanks for a conduct which is so truly honourable to the British name and character, and which may be expected in the way of example to be productive of the happiest effects.

We wish, by quoting the above resolution, to express our admiration of Sir Sidney's conduct. Without meaning any disrespect to the military profession, we could almost hope that he may be less known hereafter by the appellation of, *the hero of Acre*, than by that (which is well deserved) of *THE PHILANTHROPIST OF THE BRAZILS*.

*For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.*

A SUCCESSFUL ATTEMPT TO CIVILIZE INDIA BY PEACEABLE MEANS, A GOOD LESSON FOR GOVERNORS, EXTRACTED FROM A NARRATIVE OF A TOUR THROUGH BENGAL, AND THE INTERIOR OF HINDOSTAN IN 1794, &c. PUBLISHED IN THE LONDON MONTHLY MAGAZINE.

**M**R. CLEVELAND was appointed chief of Baugilpore, about the year 1778. This gentleman was by nature humane, mild, and con-